

Statewide Interoperability Governance Board
Minutes
March 9, 2017
1:30 PM
Cogswell Building, Room 151

Members Present:

Quinn Ness, MDOA/SITSD, SCIO Alternate
Captain Curt Stinson, MACOP
Colonel Tom Butler, MDOJ/MHP
Clint Loss, MEMSA

Jon Swartz, MDT, Alternate
Patrick Lonergan, MFCA
☞ Commissioner Joe Briggs, MACO
Delila Bruno, MDMA

Staff Present:

Wendy Jackson, DOA/SITSD

Guests Present:

Mike Feldman, MDOJ/MHP; E. Wing Spooner, MDOA/SITSD; Trudy Skari, MDOA/SITSD; Bob Armstrong, MDOJ/MHP; Mark Baker, AT&T

☞ **Real-time Communication:**

Sean Gallagher, MDNRC; Chris Lounsbury, Missoula County; Charlie Gilmore, Lewis & Clark County; Brad Steiner, Motorola Solutions; Dale Osborne, MDOJ/MHP; Mike DeGrosky, DNRC; Jack Spillman, Flathead County; Dan Hawkins, U.S. DHS/OEC; Marjean Penny, Gallatin County; Liz Brooks, Flathead County.

Welcome and Introductions

Quinn Ness welcomed the board to the March 9, 2017 Statewide Interoperability Governance Board (SIGB) meeting. All members and guests were introduced.

Mr. Ness stated that the Governor has recently appointed Sheriff Leo Dutton to another board. Sheriff Dutton has resigned his position as Chair of the SIGB. This creates a vacancy on the board for the MSPOA representative. The Governor will appoint a replacement to fill this position. Ron Baldwin is the Vice Chair. Mr. Baldwin is unable to attend the meeting today. Mr. Ness, as Mr. Baldwin's alternate, will be acting Chair for the March 9, 2017 SIGB meeting.

Minutes

Motion: Commissioner Joe Briggs made a motion to approve the February 9, 2017 minutes as presented. Colonel Tom Butler seconded the motion. Motion carried.

FirstNet 2016 Consultation Update

Dan Sullivan gave a report on FirstNet 2016 Consultation activities. FirstNet meetings will be held in Butte on April 25, Great Falls on April 26, and Helena on May 9, 2017. Tracy Murdock from FirstNet would like to address the SIGB on May 11, 2017. FirstNet is waiting for Federal Judge Kaplan's ruling on the challenge by Rivada Networks. Rivada Networks has filed a legal action against FirstNet, the company claims that its bid to be a provider for the FirstNet contract was improperly excluded from the procurement process. If FirstNet receives a favorable ruling, this will likely mean that AT&T will be awarded the 25-year FirstNet contract to build and maintain the nationwide public-safety broadband network. Once a partner is secured than FirstNet will deliver a deployment plan to each state within six months of executing the contract. A link to a FirstNet communications video will be posted to the SIGB website (<http://sitsd.mt.gov/Public-Safety-Home-Page/SIGB-Main-Page>).

LC2491 Discussion

Mr. Ness requested comments from SIGB members regarding the LC2491 bill draft. Commissioner Briggs stated that this bill accurately reflects the SIGB prior discussions. MACO will discuss LC2491 in the March 13, 2017 Executive Committee meeting. Patrick Lonergan stated that the concerns of the Fire Chiefs have been addressed by this bill. Mike DeGrosky commented that the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) still has some concerns regarding this bill. The Advisory Council membership is limited to users of the public safety communications network, but this council will have rule making authority that will affect non-users.

Mr. DeGrosky recommended that the definition of the public safety communications network be limited to include only the systems specifically outlined in this bill. Mr. DeGrosky also requested that the phrase “the public safety communications system” be changed to “a public safety communications system”. Mr. DeGrosky reiterated that DNRC has no interest in participating in anything that would put their LMR system under the control of another agency. DNRC has a concern with the intent in the verbiage which states that “creating and communicating operational recommendations and guidelines applicable to all state agencies”. Colonel Butler clarified that the bill specifically states that this is limited to the public safety communications system as defined in the bill. This would in no way affect the DNRC analogue LMR system. Mr. DeGrosky requested that the verbiage, “nothing in this act shall be construed to provide the department with any regulatory authority or responsibility over any commercial business” be revised to include “or other state agency”. Mr. Ness stated that this provision is specifically a requirement to protect the private commercial interests of telecommunications companies. The inclusion of other state agencies would not be appropriate in this clause. There is nothing in Montana code that would give the Department of Justice any authority over the Department of Natural Resources. Mr. DeGrosky also commented that it would be helpful to have the definition of a Public Safety Communication System located at the beginning of the bill, rather than the end. Mr. Ness stated that it would not be appropriate bill construction to place the definitions at the beginning of the bill.

Action Item: Mr. Ness will follow up to confirm the appropriate procedure for placement of definitions within a bill.

Jon Swartz stated that the definition of public safety communications system should be narrowed to focus strictly on the trunked LMR system and microwave backbone and any new technology that would interconnect to that system.

Action Item: Mr. Ness will revise the definition of public safety communications system in the bill draft.

Mike Feldman commented that the bill verbiage should be revised to include “tribal, federal, or municipal governments”.

Action Item: Mr. Ness will revise the bill draft to include Mr. Feldman’s suggestion.

Public Comment

None

Next Meeting

Thursday, April 13, 2017

1:30 PM – 3:30 PM

Cogswell Building, Room 151

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:32 PM.